

ENTREPRENEURSHIP BEHAVIOUR OF YOUTH IN BEEKEEPING AT LAMJUNG DISTRICT OF NEPAL.

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ABSTRACT

Several studies have shown that the decision to start an enterprise is linked to a set of economic and socio-demographic characteristics. The aim of the present study is to complement existing literature on the origins of entrepreneurial development by analyzing the beekeeping sector with the purpose of discovering the economic and socio-demographic factors that influence the intention to start a business. A total of 90 sampling population were taken by face to face interview using semi structured pre-tested questionnaire and FGD. In this way, the present research examines economic characteristics: the intention for business plan and two socio-demographic characteristics: beekeepers' age and level of education. The respondents of age group (18-40) years (70%) both male and female were found to be actively involved in beekeeping enterprises. The main factor affecting the beekeeping enterprise was found to be lack of grazing land (57%) and production loss by wasps (67%). Similarly, (3%) of entrepreneurs have business plan in written form while (83%) have business plan but not in written form. All these variables were found to be significantly correlated with the intention to start an enterprise.

Key words: Age, Beekeepers, Business plan, Entrepreneurship.

Introduction

Honeybee is regarded as important high value commodity of Nepal and one of the most important income-generating activities for majority people [1]. It has become a viable home-based and low-capital business for Nepalese entrepreneurs [2]. Beekeeping, a cultural heritage in Nepalese community, practiced from an ancient time because honey hunting has been dated back to thousands of years [3]. Five species of the honeybees are present in Nepal viz. *Apis florea* F., *Apis cerana* F., *Apis mellifera* L., *Apis dorsata* F. and *Apis laboriosa*. Among these, *A. cerana* and *A. mellifera* are the only domesticated honeybee species [4]. The bee products are used extensively in industrial manufacturing, medicine, food processing and natural healing. Entrepreneurship of honeybee concept is emerging in Nepal, honeybee entrepreneurship concept was first started from Dang. Different NGO/INGO, private company provides the technical & financial support to establishment of the honeybee enterprises. Beekeeping in Lamjung has been practiced for many years through successive generations and along inherited patterns. However, the activity has not gained its climax though it has a lot potentiality in honey production.

Production of honey in fiscal year 2015/16 was found to be 3600 MT [5]. In Lamjung district the number of total hives is 217, total production of honey is 714kg and productivity per hive is 3.29 [6]. Honeybee sector is one of the unique sectors for conservation of Himalayan vegetation and ecotourism development in Nepal. The main purpose of this study very important to provide knowledge, skills to establish enterprises on locally available resources like honeybee to build up self-employment on them.

Materials and Methods

The study was carried out in 3 different municipalities (Besishar, Sundarbazar and Rainash) Lamjung district mid hills of Nepal during 2015/16, which lies in the geographical coordinates of 28° 12'0"North 84°22'0"East. Randomly selected 90 households;of which 39 were from BCNT(Bhramin;Chhetri;Newar;Tamang) ethnic group while 51 were from janajati community. Firsthand information was obtained by face to face interview based on pre-structured questionnaire, focal group discussion (FGD) and key informant. Secondary data was taken from DADO Lamjung, books, internet along with reports of different INGO/NGOs. The pre-testing of questionnaire was done on 5 households of Sunndarbazar municipality and correction was made in finalized questionnaire. After, collection of primary data from the field survey was entered in MS-Excel version 2010. Data analysis was done by SPSS version 16.0. Different statistical tests were done whenever appropriate. The analyzed data was presented by using text, table, graph and pie-charts with the help of MS-Excel.

Result and Discussion

Socio-demographic factor of youth in beekeeping

Table 1: Socio-demographic factor of youth in beekeeping in Lamjung at 2017

Parameter	Total	Percentages
<u>Gender</u>		
Male	69	77
Female	21	23
<u>Age</u>		
18-24	9	10
25-40	54	60
41-50	18	20
50 above	9	10
<u>Occupation</u>		
Agriculture	90	100
<u>Ethnicity</u>		
BCNT	39	43
Janajati	51	57

<u>Education</u>		
Illiterate	15	17
Literate	36	40
Secondary	33	37
Intermediate	3	3
Bachelor and above	3	3

The table represents the socio-demographic characteristic of the respondents, there are 77% were male while 23% were female, the numbers of the active group entrepreneurs of (25-40) year age group was maximum which 60% is. The number of entrepreneurs of age group (18-24) years of age was only 10%, while the entrepreneurs of age (41-50) was 20%, and the number of entrepreneurs of age group more than 50 was found to 10%. The number of active age group (25-40) entrepreneurs are dominating in the society and during the survey it was found that the all the beekeeping farmers are based on the primary occupation of agriculture. All of them perform the agricultural works in the field and rear the honeybee simultaneously. Similar result was reported by [7] in his study, agriculture is the main occupation of the people living in the rural area. It was found that most of the entrepreneurs are janajati which was 57% and the number of BCNT was 43%. The number of janajati farmers is more attracted towards the beekeeping than the BCNT in the Lamjung district. Among the total number of respondents illiterate respondents were 17%, literate respondents were 40%, respondents with secondary level of education were 37% and both the intermediate and the bachelor level of respondents were 3% respectively. The number of literate respondents was pretty much high than the illiterate respondents who were rearing the beekeeping in Lamjung district. Among the total number of the respondents 57% were Buddhist and the 43% of the respondents were Hindu. The Lamjung district is dominated by the janajati people and these people are more attracted towards beekeeping for self-employment and additional income.

No of bee hives at different years at 3 municipality of Lamjung district.

Table 2: Total numbers of beehives of different years at Lamjung district.

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. Of beehives</u>
2013	58
2014	93
2015	163
2016	292
2017	385

Till the 2017, there are 385 number of bee hives in 3 different municipality in Lamjung district. The trend of bee colony is increasing in every year. In 2013 there was only 58 bee hives, which was increased and becomes 93 in year 2014, during 2015 and 2016 the number of bee hives was 163 and 292 respectively.

Intention for business plan of beekeeping enterprises:

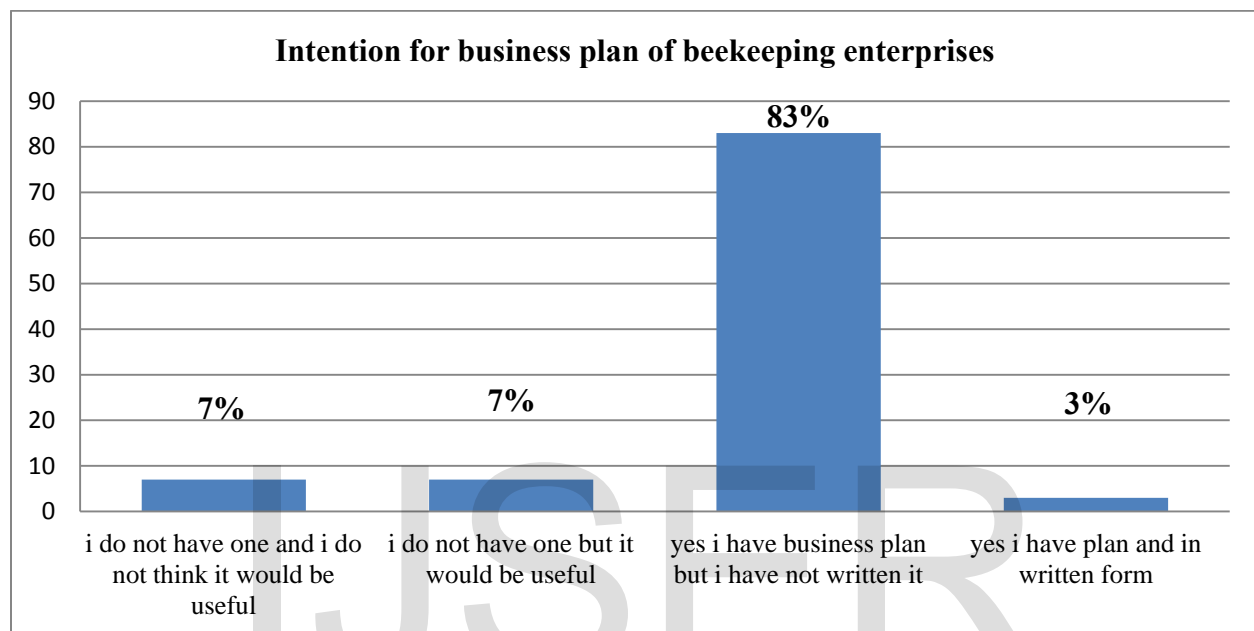


Fig 1: Intention to the business plan owing the beekeeping enterprises by respondents at Lamjung.

Cross-tab of intention to business plan vs age of the respondents

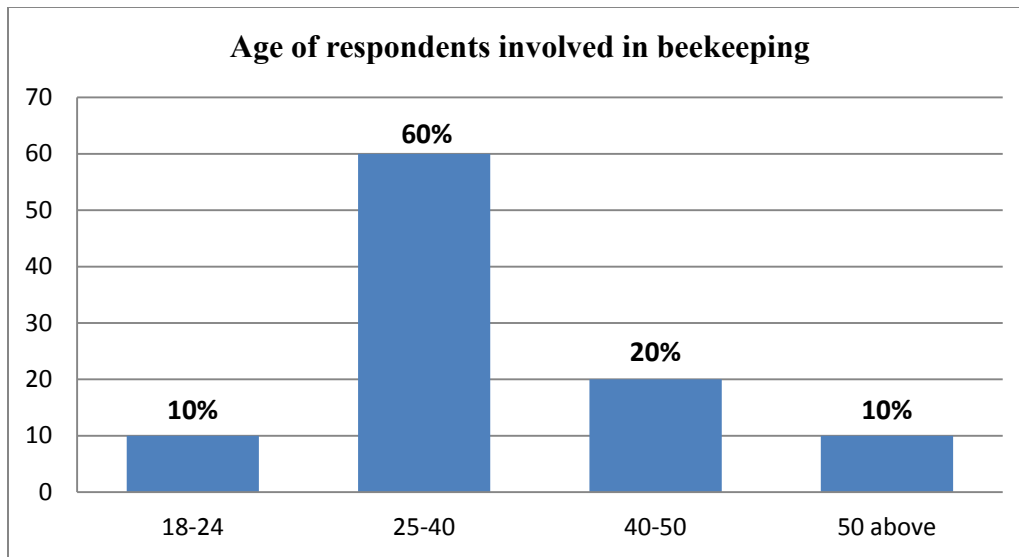


Fig 2: Different age group of respondents involved in beekeeping in Lamjung at 2017

Main problem of beekeeping enterprises:

Problems of beekeeping enterprises as perceived by farmers.

Table 3: Problems of beekeeping in Lamjung at 2017

Parameters	Frequency	Percentage%
<u>Main enemy</u>		
ants	6	13
wasps	20	67
mites	4	20

The main enemy of the honeybee enterprise was wasps (67%), which mainly attack the bee and also honey in the hives. Wasps mainly destroy the hive and it kills the bees, ants (20%) are the second major enemy of the honeybee which attacks the hive and kills the bee. Mites (13%) are also the third enemy of the bee which affect the bee population and kills the honeybee and it destroy the comb of the colony. The others enemy was not reported during the survey.

Impact of pesticide application on beekeeping enterprise.

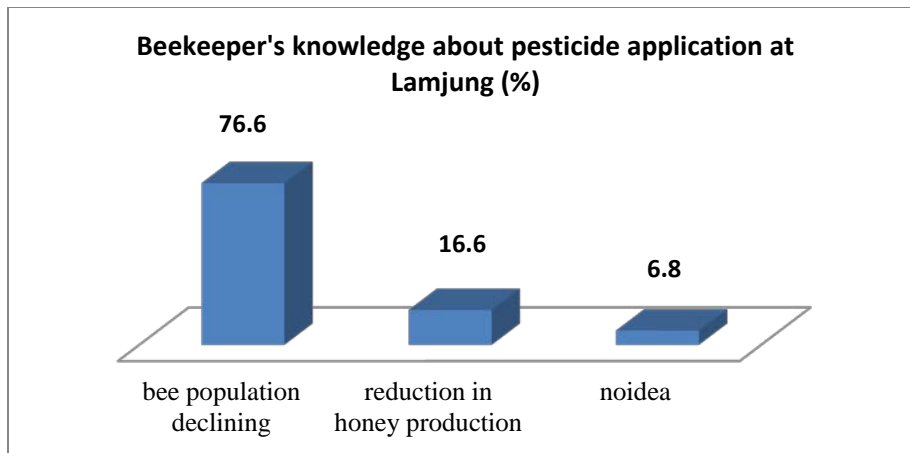


Fig 3: Beekeeper's knowledge about pesticide application in Lamjung at 2017

The knowledge about the pesticide application on beekeeping was responded by the respondents was 76.6% whom saying the bee population declining due to the application of the pesticide on the agricultural field for the crop production, 16.6% of them reported about the reduction in honey production due to the application of the pesticide on the agricultural crops while 6.8% of them reported that they have no any idea regarding the pesticide application . Due to the pesticide application on the field there is pesticide residue on the honey and such honey was banded by the European Union for their trade and export to the foreign countries.

Parameter affecting the honey bee cultivation at Lamjung district.

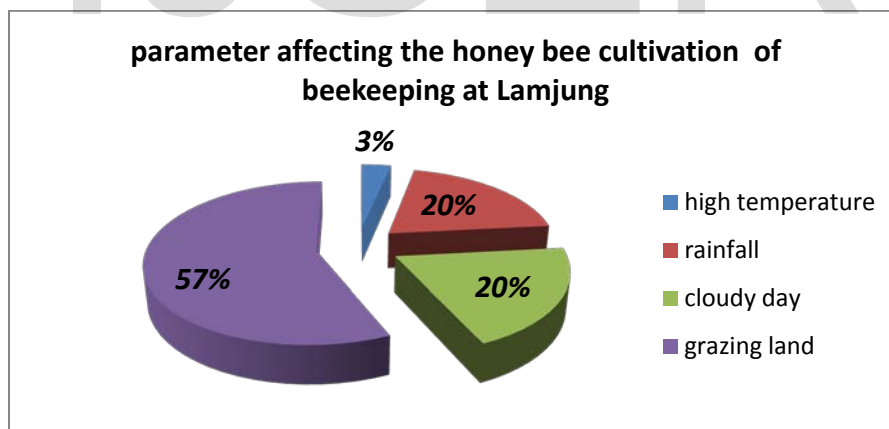


Fig 4: Factors affecting the beekeeping in Lamjung at 2017

During the research main factor affecting the honey bee cultivation is grazing land 57% , which mainly affect the honey production and it also affect the quality of honey, rainfall affect the 20% of the honey cultivation while cloudy day affect the 20% of the honey production . Only 3% of the honey production is affected by high rainfall.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

The main problem of the beekeeping is unavailability of grazing land 57%, the main enemy for bee is wasps 67%. The production of the crop had increased 97%, which helps in pollination for crop thus productivity has increased. Beekeeping enterprises is profitable if there is involvement of scientific method of cultivation practices, knowledge and training about beekeeping. The farmers are getting benefited from DADO in technical assistance and for training. There is lack of processing and packaging enterprises in beekeeping for export to foreign country.

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